

Karl F. Dean Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** November 17, 2008 Contact: Janel Lacy (615) 862-6020 direct (615) 438-3416 cell janel.lacy@nashville.gov

## CENTENNIAL PARK LISTED ON NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Mayor appoints committee to oversee Centennial Park restoration

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Mayor Karl Dean today announced he has appointed a committee to oversee the restoration of Centennial Park. The park, which was the site of the 1897 Centennial Exposition, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

"The Exposition was the catalyst for municipal park systems here and across the state," Dean said. "But despite its historic significance and prominent location in our city, the monuments, historic architecture, and grounds of Centennial Park are in great need of repair."

The committee's first order of business will be to issue a request for proposal for a master plan for the park. The Conservancy will coordinate funding for the contract.

"Every member of this committee is a community leader dedicated to making Centennial Park not only the signature park in Nashville, but also a model for great inner-city parks across the country," Dean said.

George Anderson, chair of the Conservancy for the Parthenon and Centennial Park, will chair the committee. Nicholas S. Zeppos, chancellor of Vanderbilt University, will serve as honorary chair.

"Centennial Park is a Nashville treasure that is an incredible destination and resource for faculty, staff, students and visitors of Vanderbilt, and I am honored to work on the restoration of this historic site that includes classical ties to my Greek ancestors," Zeppos said.

## **Committee members:**

- Nicholas S. Zeppos, chancellor of Vanderbilt University (honorary chair)
- George Anderson, chair of the Conservancy for the Parthenon and Centennial Park, and president of First Horizon Insurance
- Ben Armistead, executive board member of the Conservancy for the Parthenon and Centennial Park, and chairman of Greenwich Transportation Underwriters Inc.

## Page 2, Centennial Park listed on National Register of Historic Places

- Stan Fossick, chair of the Metro Board of Parks and Recreation, and vice president of Midsouth Wire
- Aubrey Harwell, managing partner of Neal & Harwell PLC
- Christine Kreyling, architecture and urban planning critic
- Chris Kyriopoulos, co-founder and principal of Compound Capital
- Reavis Mitchell, professor and chair of the Department of History at Fisk University, and chairman of the State Review Board for nominations to the National Trust

###